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ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER  
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

## RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF RECORDING ARTS AND SCIENCES

Mr. HODES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 273) recognizing the 50th Anniversary of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

## H. CON. RES. 273

Whereas, in 1957, a group of visionary leaders gathered at the famed Brown Derby in Los Angeles to form The National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences;

Whereas The Recording Academy soon created the GRAMMY Award which is the world's most visible and prestigious award for music;

Whereas the GRAMMY was created as a peer award, given by music makers, for music makers, to honor the highest quality recording music of the year without regard to sales or chart position;

Whereas The Recording Academy expanded its mission beyond recognition of musical excellence to include groundbreaking professional development, cultural enrichment, advocacy, education, and human services programs;

Whereas through its 12 chapters across America, The Recording Academy serves more than 18,000 musicians, singers, songwriters, producers, engineers, and other music professionals;

Whereas, in 1989, The Recording Academy created the GRAMMY Foundation to cultivate the understanding, appreciation, and advancement of the contribution of recorded music to American culture, from the artistic and technical legends of the past to the still unimagined musical breakthroughs of future generations of music professionals;

Whereas that same year, The Recording Academy created MusiCares, to provide a safety net of critical assistance for music people in times of need;

Whereas the GRAMMYs on the Hill Initiative, based in Washington, DC, works to advance the rights of the music community through advocacy, education, and dialogue; and

Whereas through this initiative, The Recording Academy has become a leading advocate for music makers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress congratulates The Recording Academy during its 50th GRAMMY celebration for its important work in improving the environment for music and music makers.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

New Hampshire (Mr. HODES) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Hampshire.

## GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HODES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Hampshire?

There was no objection.

Mr. HODES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I'm pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 273, which acknowledges the 50th anniversary of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences.

House Concurrent Resolution 273 was introduced by Representative MARY BONO MACK of California on December 19, 2007, and was considered by and reported from the Oversight Committee on January 29, 2008, by voice vote.

The measure has the support of over 60 Members of Congress, and provides our body a collective opportunity to both recognize and congratulate the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences on its 50th anniversary Grammy Awards celebration.

Established in 1957, the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, also known as the Recording Academy, serves as the premier organization of musicians, producers, recording engineers and other recording professionals dedicated to improving the quality of life and cultural conditions of others through music and the arts. As a producer of recordings myself, I am especially aware of the academy's fine and important work.

The Recording Academy is best known for its presentation of the Grammy Awards, which is the only peer-presented award ceremony to honor artistic achievement, technical proficiency and overall excellence in the recording industry without regard to album sales or chart position.

In addition to the Grammys, the Recording Academy is also known for its philanthropic efforts to cultivate the understanding, appreciation and advancement of the recording industry's contributions to American culture through music and education programs offered by the Grammy Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I'm sure we all agree that the Recording Academy has made a significant contribution to the landscape of our country. For its service in improving the environment for music, music makers and music lovers over the past 50 years, the Recording Academy is undoubtedly deserving of recognition. Therefore, I urge swift passage of House Concurrent Resolution 273.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 273, which recognizes the 50th anniversary of the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences.

Mr. Speaker, while the music industry has changed and continues to change over the years, its importance to the lives of Americans has not. Songs provide inspiration, evoke fond memories, and even comfort us during times of need.

In addition to entertaining us, we should also be mindful of the music industry's role in our Nation's economy, accounting for some \$11.5 billion annually. Moreover, this sector of our economy provides jobs to thousands of singers, songwriters, musicians, producers and other recording professionals.

In 1957, the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences was formed to honor the most talented music makers by creating the world's most prestigious music award, known as the Grammy Award.

This unique award is not based on sales, popularity or consumer taste but is given as a peer award by artists for artists. The award also continues to be the only peer-presented award to honor the achievement, technical proficiency and overall excellence in the recording industry.

The Recording Academy's responsibility for the Grammys is only the tip of the iceberg. The academy has also expanded its scope beyond recognizing the best in music to include groundbreaking professional development, cultural enrichment, advocacy, education and human services programs. In time, the Grammy Foundation was created to recognize the significant contributions music has made to American culture and its impact on all of our citizens in the past, present and future.

Another aspect of the academy's outreach is MusiCares. Through the efforts of this program, a wide range of financial, medical and personal emergencies for many struggling artists in the Nation's music community are covered. MusiCares also provides educational programs that are found throughout the country that focus on the preservation of our musical heritage.

Through its 12 chapters across the United States, the Recording Academy impacts the music community at large by working diligently to protect the music creators through strong intellectual property rights, addressing the legality of downloading and purchase of music on the Internet, as well as music preservation and music education.

I urge my colleagues to support this concurrent resolution congratulating the Recording Academy during its 50th Grammy celebration, and recognizing its important contribution to the success and vitality of music makers.

Mrs. BONO MACK. Mr. Speaker, this weekend millions of Americans will view the Grammy Awards Gala and I rise today to recognize a most important milestone for the organization responsible for this program.